## TOM TORLAKSON





July 15, 2014

Dear County and District Superintendents and Charter School Administrators:

## CHANGES TO THE UNDUPLICATED STUDENT COUNT UNDER LOCAL CONTROL FUNDING FORMULA AND LOCAL CONTROL AND ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN

This letter provides information pertaining to recent amendments to the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) and Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) statutes made by the Legislature as part of its actions on the 2014 Budget. The amendments, codified in Senate Bill 859 (Chapter 33, Statutes of 2014) resulted in: (1) changes to data collection requirements for determining whether students meet free and reduced-price meal (FRPM) income requirements in Provision 2, Provision 3, and Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) schools; (2) changes to how "foster youth" are defined, thus changing which foster youth are counted under LCFF and included in the LCAP; and (3) a modification to the calculation of the unduplicated student percentages used in the three-year rolling average.

To reduce the burden of data collection, the LCFF statutes have been changed so that National School Lunch Program (NSLP) provision schools (which do not collect NSLP applications on an annual basis) are no longer required to collect household income data each year to determine which students meet FRPM income requirements for purposes of LCFF. Instead these schools need only collect household income data at least **once every four years**, so long as they collect income data for every newly-enrolled student in the intervening years. LEAs, however, must continue to submit data for identified students to the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS) every year. Auditors will review CALPADS data for students in these schools just as they review CALPADS data at other schools, so schools should be prepared to show auditors the original documentation that a student is FRPM eligible, which may be up to three years old.

Recent changes in state law have also clarified the definition of foster youth under LCFF. All children or youth who are the subject of a petition filed under *Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC)* Section 300 (meaning a court has taken jurisdiction over a child and declared the child to be a dependent of the court due to the presence or risk of abuse or neglect) are included **regardless of whether they are living at home or are placed outside the home.** Children or youth who are the subject of a petition filed under *WIC* Section 602, however (meaning a court has taken jurisdiction over a child

and declared the child to be a ward of the court due to the child's violation of certain laws), are included only if they have been ordered by a court to be removed from home pursuant to *WIC* Section 727 and placed in foster care as defined by *WIC* Section 727.4(d).

Finally, changes have been made to the years used to calculate the "unduplicated pupils" percentage three-year rolling average. In recognition of the challenges of collecting all the necessary data in 2013–14, the LCFF statutes were amended, allowing the 2014–15 unduplicated percentage to be used in place of the 2013–14 unduplicated percentage, if it is higher, for the 2014–15 and 2015–16 calculations.

For further information regarding these LCFF changes, please refer to the set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) posted on the CDE's LCFF page at <a href="http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/lc/">http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/lc/</a>. If you have any LCFF questions, please send an e-mail to <a href="http://www.cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/lc/">LCFF@cde.ca.gov/fg/aa/lc/</a>. If you have any LCFF questions, please send an e-mail to <a href="http://www.cde.ca.gov/calpads">LCFF@cde.ca.gov/salpads</a>. For CALPADS specific questions please contact the CALPADS Service Desk using the Web form in CALPADS, or at <a href="http://www2.cde.ca.gov/calpads+LP/DEFAULT.ASPX">http://www2.cde.ca.gov/CALPADSHELP/DEFAULT.ASPX</a>, or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:calpads-support@cde.ca.gov">calpads-support@cde.ca.gov</a>. The CALPADS Service Desk may also be reached by phone at 916-325-9210.

Sincerely,

/s/

Cindy Kazanis, Director Educational Data Management Division

CK:pm

cc: LEA CALPADS Administrators